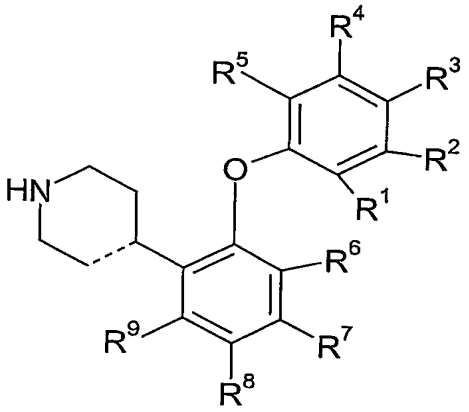
Claims:

1. A compound represented by the general formula I

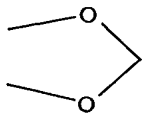


Wherein

the dotted line ---- indicates a single bond or a double bond;

R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5 are independently selected from hydrogen, halogen, cyano, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yloxy, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)ylsulfanyl, hydroxy, hydroxy-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, halo-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, halo-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yloxy, or NR^xR^y wherein R^x and R^y are independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, cyano-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, or NR^zR^w-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, wherein R^z and R^w are independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, or C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl; or R^x and R^y together with the nitrogen to which they are attached form a 3-7-membered ring which optionally contains one further heteroatom; or

R^2 and R^3 together form a heterocycle fused to the phenyl ring selected from

 ; and R^1, R^4, R^5 are as defined above;

R^6, R^7, R^8, R^9 are independently selected from hydrogen, halogen, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yloxy, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)ylsulfanyl, hydroxy, hydroxy-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, halo-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, halo-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yloxy, or NR^xR^y wherein R^x and R^y are

independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, cyano-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, or NR^zR^w-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, wherein R^z and R^w are independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, or C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl; or R^x and R^y together with the nitrogen to which they are attached form a 3-7-membered ring which optionally contains one further heteroatom;

provided that at least one of R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5, R^6, R^7, R^8, and R^9 is different from hydrogen;

or a salt thereof.

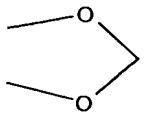
2. The compound of claim 1, wherein R^1 is selected from hydrogen, halogen, cyano, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yloxy, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)ylsulfanyl, halo-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, or NR^xR^y wherein R^x and R^y are independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, cyano-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, or NR^zR^w-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, wherein R^z and R^w are independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, or C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, provided that if one of R^x and R^y is NR^zR^w-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl then the other is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, cyano-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, or C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl; or R^x and R^y together with the nitrogen to which they are attached form a 3-7-membered ring which optionally contains one further heteroatom; typically, R^1 is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alkyl, or halogen.

3. The compound of any one of claims 1-2, wherein R^2 is selected from hydrogen, halogen, cyano, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yloxy, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)ylsulfanyl, halo-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl; typically, R^2 is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alkoxy, halo-C_{1-6}-alkyl, C_{1-6}-alkyl, or halogen; more typically, R^2 is selected from hydrogen, or C_{1-6}-alkoxy.

4. The compound of any one of claims 1-3, wherein R^3 is selected from hydrogen, halogen, cyano, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yloxy, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)ylsulfanyl, halo-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl; typically, R^3 is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alkyl, C_{1-6}-

alkoxy, halogen, or halo-C_{1-6}-alkyl; more typically, R^3 is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alkyl, C_{1-6}-alkoxy, or halogen.

5. The compound of any one of claims 1-2, wherein R^2 and R^3 together form a heterocycle fused to the phenyl ring selected from



6. The compound of any one of claims 1-5 wherein R^4 is selected from hydrogen, halogen, cyano, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yloxy, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)ylsulfanyl, halo-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl; typically, R^4 is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alkoxy, halo-C_{1-6}-alkyl, C_{1-6}-alkyl, or halogen; more typically, R^4 is selected from hydrogen, or C_{1-6}-alkoxy.

7. The compound of any one of claims 1-6 wherein R^5 is selected from hydrogen, halogen, cyano, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yloxy, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)ylsulfanyl, halo-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, or NR^xR^y wherein R^x and R^y are independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, cyano-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, or NR^zR^w-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, wherein R^z and R^w are independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, or C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, provided that if one of R^x and R^y is NR^zR^w-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl then the other is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, cyano-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, or C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl; or R^x and R^y together with the nitrogen to which they are attached form a 3-7-membered ring which optionally contains one further heteroatom; typically, R^5 is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alkyl, or halogen.

8. The compound of any one of claims 1-7 wherein R^6 is selected from hydrogen, halogen, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, halo-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl; typically, R^6 is selected from hydrogen, or halogen.

9. The compound of any one of claims 1-8 wherein R^7 is selected from hydrogen, halogen, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, halo-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl; typically, R^7 is selected from hydrogen, or halogen.

10. The compound of any one of claims 1-9 wherein R^8 is selected from hydrogen, halogen, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, halo-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, or NR^xR^y wherein R^x and R^y are independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, cyano-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, or NR^zR^w-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, wherein R^z and R^w are independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, or C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, provided that if one of R^x and R^y is NR^zR^w-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl then the other is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, cyano-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, or C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl; or R^x and R^y together with the nitrogen to which they are attached form a 3-7-membered ring which optionally contains one further heteroatom; typically, R^8 is selected from hydrogen, halo-C_{1-6}-alkyl, C_{1-6}-alkyl, or halogen.

11. The compound of any one of claims 1-10 wherein R^9 is selected from hydrogen, halogen, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, halo-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl; typically, R^9 is selected from hydrogen.

12. The compound of any one of claims 1-11 wherein the dotted line ---- indicates a single bond.

13. The compound of any one of claims 1-11 wherein the dotted line ---- indicates a double bond.

14. The compound of any one of claims 1-13 wherein the compound of formula I has 1-4 substituents in the phenyl ring(s), selected from any one of R^1-R^9, which are different from hydrogen, and the remaining substituents are hydrogen.

15. The compound of claim 1, said compound being
4-[2-(2,4-Dimethylphenoxy)phenyl]-1,2,3,6-tetrahydropyridine,
4-[2-(4-Chlorophenoxy)phenyl]-1,2,3,6-tetrahydropyridine,

4-[2-(4-Fluoro-2-methylphenoxy)phenyl]-1,2,3,6-tetrahydropyridine,
4-[2-(4-Fluorophenoxy)phenyl]-1,2,3,6-tetrahydropyridine,
4-[2-(4-Methylphenoxy)phenyl]-1,2,3,6-tetrahydropyridine,
4-[2-(4-Methoxyphenoxy)phenyl]-1,2,3,6-tetrahydropyridine,
4-[2-(2,4-Dimethylphenoxy)phenyl]piperidine,
4-[2-(4-Chlorophenoxy)phenyl]piperidine,
4-[2-(4-Fluoro-2-methylphenoxy)phenyl]piperidine,
4-[2-(4-Fluorophenoxy)phenyl]piperidine,
4-[2-(4-Methylphenoxy)phenyl]piperidine,
4-[2-(4-Chloro-2- methyl-phenoxy)-phenyl]-piperidine
4-[2-(3-Chloro-2- methyl-phenoxy)-phenyl]-piperidine
4-[2-(2-Chloro-4-methyl-phenoxy)-phenyl]-piperidine
4-[2-(2,4-Dichloro-phenoxy)-phenyl]-piperidine
4-[2-(Benzo[1,3]dioxol-5-yloxy)-phenyl]-piperidine,
4-[2-(4-Methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy)-phenyl]-piperidine,
4-[2-(3,4-Dichloro-phenoxy)-phenyl]-piperidine,
4-[2-(3,4-Dimethyl-phenoxy)-phenyl]-piperidine,
4-[2-(2,3,4,5-Tetramethyl-phenoxy)-phenyl]-piperidine,
4-[2-(4-Trifluoromethyl-phenoxy)-phenyl]-piperidine,
4-[2-(4-Methoxy-phenoxy)-phenyl]-piperidine,
4-[2-(2-Chloro-4-methoxy-phenoxy)-phenyl]-piperidine,
4-[2-(3,4-Dimethoxy-phenoxy)-phenyl]-piperidine,
4-[2-(4-Chloro-3-trifluoromethyl-phenoxy)-phenyl]-piperidine,
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

16. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of any one of claims 1-15 or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof and at least one pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

17. The use of a compound of any one of claims 1 to 15 or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof for the preparation of a medicament for the treatment of affective disorders, such as depression, anxiety disorders including general anxiety disorder, social anxiety disorder, post traumatic stress disorder,

obsessive compulsive disorder, panic disorder, panic attacks, specific phobias, social phobia and agoraphobia.

18. A method for the treatment of an affective disorder, such as depression, anxiety disorders including general anxiety disorder, social anxiety disorder, post traumatic stress disorder, obsessive compulsive disorder, panic disorder, panic attacks, specific phobias, social phobia and agoraphobia in a living animal body, including a human, comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of any one of claims 1- 15 or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof.

19. A compound of any one of claims 1-15 for use as a medicament.